

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2425

INF AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MELBOURNE 1320

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, AS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

DIRECTOR TO RECRUIT SUCCESSOR

1. GORDON THOMSON, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA, HAS ADVISED CONGEN ON AN INFORMAL, PERSONAL BASIS, THAT HE PLANS A TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, INTERVIEW PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES TO SUCCEED HIM AS DIRECTOR UPON HIS RETIREMENT, PLANNED FOR SOME TIME NEXT YEAR.

2. THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1861 AND TODAY IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE ART COLLECTION IN THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OUTSIDE LONDON. THE RECENTLY OPENED ART GALLERY IS THE FIRST UNIT IN A PROJECTED, INTEGRATED CENTER FOR THE ARTS, WHICH, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL CONSIST OF A NEW ART SCHOOL BUILDING AND THREE THEATERS OF VARIOUS SIZED TO ACCOMMODATE OPERA, BALLET, DRAMA, FILMS, ETC. IN OTHER WORDS, THE DIRECTOR IS MORE THAN A CURATOR OF PAINTINGS, SCULPTURE, GLASS, ETC.

3. THE PURPOSE OF THIS TELEGRAM IS TO OBTAIN FROM DEPARTMENT NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATES WHO MR. THOMSON MIGHT INTERVIEW ON HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP. CONGEN WOULD APPRECIATE CABLE REPLY AS TO FEASIBILITY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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Message Attributes

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